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**Fifty-fifth session**
Agenda item 20 (b)
**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions**

**Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Mexico, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: revised draft resolution**

## Emergency assistance to Belize

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 42/169 of 11 December 1987, 43/202 of 20 December 1988, 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 45/185 of 21 December 1990, 46/149 of 18 December 1991, 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 48/188 of 21 December 1993 and 49/22 A of 2 December 1994,

*Having been made aware* of the extensive damage caused by powerful Hurricane Keith during its landfall and passage through Belize on 1-3 October 2000,

*Mindful* of the human suffering caused by the displacement of thousands of people due to the loss of homes,

*Aware* of the devastating effect that the continuing emergency, due to flooding, is having on the country's infrastructure, its agricultural and fisheries sectors and the delivery of health and social services,

*Noting* the enormous efforts required to alleviate the devastation caused by this natural disaster,

*Cognizant* of the efforts of the Government and peoples of Belize to relieve the suffering of the victims of Hurricane Keith,

*Conscious also* of the rapid response being made by the Government of Belize, the agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, the international and regional

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agencies, the non-governmental organizations and private individuals to provide relief,

*Underlining* the importance of efforts aimed at strengthening early warning, prevention and preparedness mechanisms for natural disasters and measures to strengthen capacity-building at the local, national and regional levels, with an emphasis on risk reduction,

*Aware* that the extent of the disaster and its medium-term and long-term effects will require, as a complement to the efforts being made by the Government and peoples of Belize, a demonstration of international solidarity and humanitarian concern to ensure broad multilateral cooperation in order to facilitate the transition from the immediate emergency situation in the affected areas to the process of reconstruction,

1. *Expresses* its solidarity with and support to the Government and people of Belize;

2. *Also expresses* its appreciation to all States of the international community, the international agencies and non-governmental organizations that are providing emergency relief assistance to Belize;

3. *Urges* Member States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute generously to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of Belize;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the international financial institutions, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, to assist the Government of Belize in identifying medium-term and long-term needs and in mobilizing resources, as well as to help with the efforts of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the affected areas in Belize;

5. *Encourages* the Government of Belize, in conjunction with relevant partners, to further develop strategies aimed at preventing and mitigating natural disasters;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary arrangements to continue mobilizing and coordinating humanitarian assistance from the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with a view to supporting the efforts of the Government of Belize.